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7 December 1968

State Dept. review completed

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Approved For Release 2004/01/05 : CIA-RDP79T00975A012700060003-2

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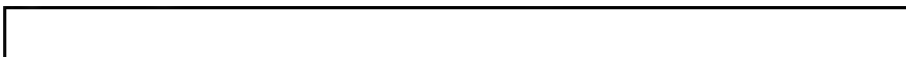
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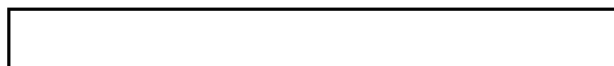
Nigeria: British peace initiative
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NOTES

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NIGERIA: THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, APPARENTLY NOW CONVINCED THAT AN EARLY MILITARY SOLUTION TO THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR IS UNLIKELY, IS UNDERTAKING A NEW PEACE INITIATIVE. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] LONDON IS PREPARING THE GROUNDWORK FOR A BRITISH OFFICIAL OF MINISTERIAL RANK TO MEET FIRST WITH BIAFRAN LEADER OJUKWU AND THEN WITH FEDERAL LEADER GOWON TO TRY TO ARRANGE DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THEM. THERE IS NO REAL EVIDENCE AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, THAT OJUKWU WOULD BE MORE CONCILIATORY THAN IN THE PAST, WHILE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES STILL APPEAR CONVINCED THAT THEY CAN ACHIEVE A MILITARY VICTORY. [REDACTED]

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